MIDIdocs

Chords

Forum Discussion Thread - for comments, corrections, or questions about this article

When you initialize a track as a CHORD track type, the first parameter layer is a special "chord" layer. Data on this layer is represented as upper or lower case letters with an octave offset. The letters on CHORD layers are not related to note names - For example, an "A" is not necessarily an A chord.

```
G1T1   Def. Chn 1    PA:Chord  TA:Gate Step   1   Maj.12/2█ Vel:100 Len:Gld.
N/2█ ---- F/2█ ---- E/2█ ---- N/2█ ---- ---- ---- F/2█ ---- E/2█ ---- N/2█ ----
```

When not transposed, the chords in a chord layer are all C chord variants. You can play other chords by transposing the chord track (either by external keyboard, or with a loopback bus track). For example: To play a D major chord, choose an "A" chord type (C Major, root position), and send a D note to transpose the chord track. To play an E minor chord, choose an "a" chord type (C Minor, root position), and send an E to transpose the chord track.

If you're not up on your music theory, you might want to use Force-To-Scale when transposing chords to ensure that your results are always in key.

When not transposed, the 32 chord letters correspond to the following chords:

- **A-C:** Major I, Major II, Major III (transposed variants)
    - **A:** C Major (Root position) (notes: C E G)
    - **B:** C Major (1st inversion) (notes: E G C)
    - **C:** C Major (2nd inversion) (notes: G C E)

- **D-F:** Root note, 3rd note, 5th note (single notes)
    - **D:** note: C
    - **E:** note: E
    - **F:** note: G

- **G,H:** Root+3rd, Root+5th
    - **G:** notes: C E
    - **H:** notes: C G

- **I-N:** Maj6, Maj7, Maj8, Maj9, Maj10, Maj12 (4-note chords)
    - **I:** C Maj6 (notes: C E G A)
    - **J:** C Maj7 (notes: C E G B)
    - **K:** C Maj8 (notes: C E G C)
    - **L:** C Maj9 (notes: C E G D)
    - **M:** C Maj10 (notes: C G C E)
    - **N:** C Maj12 (notes: C G C G)

- **O-P:** Sus4 and Maj+
    - **O:** C Sus4 (notes: C F G)
    - **P:** C Maj+ (notes: C E G#)

- **a-c:** Minor I, Minor II, Minor III (transposed variants)
    - **a:** C Minor (Root position) (notes: C D# G)
    - **b:** C Minor (1st inversion) (notes: D# G C)

- - **c:** C Minor (2nd inversion) (notes: G C D#)

- **d-f:** Root note, 3rd Min. note, 5th note (single notes)
  - **d:** note: C
  - **e:** note: D#
  - **f:** note: G

- **g,h:** Root+3rd min, Root+5th
  - **g:** notes: C D#
  - **h:** notes: C G

- **i-n:** Min6, Min7, Min8, Min9, Min10, Min12 (4-note chords)
  - **i:** C Min6 (notes: C D# G A)
  - **j:** C Min7 (notes: C D# G B)
  - **k:** C Min8 (notes: C D# G C)
  - **l:** C Min9 (notes: C D# G D)
  - **m:** C Min10 (notes: C G C E)
  - **n:** C Min12 (notes: C G C F#)

- **o-p:** CoG and Min+
  - **o:** CoG (notes: C F G)
  - **p:** C Min+ (notes: C E G#)

Adding Notes to Chord Tracks

Chord tracks can have additional NOTE Parameter Layers. You can enter notes on these layers, and they will be played along with any chords on that step.

Resources

- Tutorial on how to use chords, transposition, and loopback to play a chord progression - with audio examples.

- Forum Thread discussing how chord tracks and transposition/force-to-scale works on the SEQ

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